

From the Editor

THE cover of this month's *Soldiers* features an aerial view of one of the Army's best-kept secrets, Kwajalein Atoll. Located 2,100 miles southwest of Honolulu in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kwajalein offers soldiers and families an opportunity to live and work on a tropical island paradise. Veteran correspondent Steve Harding takes a look at this Pacific island's mission as part of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and shows us what its like to live and work island-style.

On another island, much closer to home, SSG Alberto Betancourt profiles the mission of military police stationed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. His firsthand observations and never-before-seen photos provide an inside look at this island within an island and showcases the soldiers charged with an important mission — guarding and safeguarding detainees from the war in Afghanistan.

Also in this issue, you'll find updates from the Army National Guard and Army Reserve, as well as a profile of Northern Command.

We hope you find this issue interesting and informative.

John C. Duttle

Guard Stuarts

I ENJOYED the May article "A Tank to Remember" by John Slee and 1LT David Key, but would like to point out an important omission.

The authors forgot to mention that the first time the Stuart saw combat was in the Philippines in 1941, where it was used by the 191st and 192nd Armored battalions of the National Guard. They could have given the National Guard the credit, which is all the more important since all of the members of each of these battalions were captured by the Japanese and many of them did not survive the war.

As a point of interest, there is a Stuart on display at Georgia's Veterans Memorial State Park (near Cordele, Ga.) along with a very good small museum and display park.

MSG Julian D. Shearouse
(Ret.)
via e-mail

Almanac Questions

WHILE recently reading last January's Almanac issue I was dismayed to find the M198 155mm towed howitzer was omitted from the major-equipment listing. Being a battery commander of six M-198s, I was confused about how it could have been left out.

The M198 is a great piece of equipment and deserves good press. If you need a picture for an article, I have many photos from our recent Kosovo deployment with the 10th Mountain Division.

Thank you for your consideration.

CPT Robert Marshall
via e-mail

THOUGH those of us here at *Soldiers* who are former infan-

Thanks for the Memories

I JUST finished reading the May article entitled "Memories of BK" and was very touched.

I was born in Bad Kreuznach in 1961, the daughter of a soldier stationed with the 8th Infantry Division. My father rotated through Germany again in 1965 and 1966, but we did not visit BK.

I have never been back to the city of my birth, and my parents have no pictures from there. To date, the only images I have are on a carved wooden plaque my husband gave me on his return from a recent training exercise at Grafenwöhr.

To read Heike Hasenauer's great article, see the pictures you printed and hear the words of the citizens, especially Beate Streicher, was so nice for me. It was like connecting — just a little bit, but certainly more than I have ever been able to before now — to the town in which I was born. Thank you.

I would love to correspond with someone from BK who knows the history of BK and the military. I was thrilled with your article.

Sincerely and with appreciation,

Tina Summers
via e-mail

YOUR splendid May piece on Bad Kreuznach touched me in many ways. I served with the 8th Inf. Div. from 1971 to 1974, including two years in BK.

Who can forget Frau Streicher? She hasn't changed a bit in the past 26 years. I've gotten a lot older, but she apparently has found the fountain of youth.

Your article was quite wonderful, and I know my wife will enjoy it, too.

Charles Smith
via e-mail

trymen secretly believe that all tube artillery looks alike, we didn't intend to slight the field artillery in general or the M198 in particular. Given the limited space available in the Almanac, we had to limit ourselves to just two tube artillery systems, one towed and one self-propelled. We went with the M119 and M109, respectively, but in the next Almanac we'll make every effort to include the M198.

I JUST wanted to let you know how much I appreciate the e-mail addresses in the Almanac issue — I've been using a lot of them for months — but where was the commercial site www.eArmyHQ.com?

It is an outstanding site with many, many resources that I personally find extremely valuable.

SGT Gladys J. Crum
via e-mail



